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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/754,169

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Solomon I. David

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EXAMINER

WACHSMAN, HAL D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2857

DATE MAILED: 09/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/754,169

Applicant(s)

DAVID, SOLOMON I.

Examiner

Hal D Wachsman

Art Unit

2857

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 17-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 38-42 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 17-28 and 30-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 29 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6-7-04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

1. The Supplemental Preliminary amendment filed 2-24-04 is improper under 37 C.F.R. 1.121 because the listing of claims is incomplete as it leaves out claims 1-7 which were cancelled in the first Preliminary Amendment. Appropriate correction is required.
2. The statement of continuing data on page 1 of the specification does not provide the current status of U.S. application serial no. 09/525,543. Appropriate correction is required.
3. On page 8, line 15, after the words "socket contact 15" there is a line pointing up to what appears to be hand written words "adjacent thereto" these words being located in between lines 14 and 15. Thus, it is not clear here whether these words which have not been initialed and dated are part of the specification or not. Appropriate correction is required.
4. The Abstract has after line 15 "FIG. 1B" which is not appropriate for an Abstract. Appropriate correction is required.
5. The Examiner respectfully notes a grammatical error on page 6, line 17, of the specification: "and th". Also the Examiner respectfully notes what appears to be a typographical error on page 9, line 21, of the specification: "output driv r" (i.e. the letter "e" is missing in "driver") and on page 6, next to last line : "betw en" (i.e. the letter "e" is missing in "between"). Appropriate correction is required.
6. Claims 18, 28 and 30-42 are objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(a) for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Claim 18, states "...said connectivity response signal is the same as

said connectivity interrogation signal” however the same in what way exactly ? Claim 28 cites “said first hardware component” and “said second hardware component” both of which lack antecedent basis. Claim 30, line 6, cites “said plurality of input latches” which lacks clear antecedent basis. This same type of problem also occurs in claim 35, line 7, claim 36, line 3, claim 37, lines 3-4. Claim 37, lines 2-3, cite “the plurality of output drivers” which lacks clear antecedent basis. Claim 37, line 3, cites “its associated socket contact” however the use of the pronoun “its” adds vagueness with respect to what exactly possesses the associated socket contact. Claim 38, lines 9-10, cite “transmitting a signal from said first output driver to said first socket contact so as to place said first socket contact at a high state” but does not particularly point out how exactly the transmission from the first output driver to the first socket contact results in the first socket contact being placed in a high state. This same type of problem also occurs in claim 40. Claim 41, lines 2-3, cite “the same designation scheme” which lacks clear antecedent basis. Claim 42, lines 1-2, cite “..transmitting signals from each remaining output driver..” but does not particularly point out exactly to what the signals are being transmitted. The examiner asks the applicant to better claim the limitations cited above. While the examiner understands the intentions of the applicant he feels confusion could be drawn from the limitations cited above. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 17-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Krupka et al. (5,483,467).

As per claim 17, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 3, col. 1 lines 45-52, col. 9 lines 12-22) disclose “transmitting a connectivity interrogation signal to a first socket contact proximate a first data port”. Krupka et al. (see at least abstract) disclose “receiving a connectivity response signal from a second socket contact proximate a second data port”. Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 3, col. 1 lines 52-58, col. 4 lines 46-55) disclose “interpreting said connectivity response signal...identify a connectivity between said first socket contact and said second socket contact”.

As per claim 18, Krupka et al. (Abstract, col. 8 lines 35-40) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 19, Krupka et al. (col. 10 lines 63-67) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 20, Krupka et al. (see at least abstract) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 21, Krupka et al. (figure 1B, col. 6 lines 42-50) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 22, Krupka et al. (Abstract, col. 6 lines 58-65) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 23, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figure 3, col. 2 lines 5-15, col. 6 lines 57-65, col. 7 lines 23-30) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 24, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figure 3, col. 2 lines 5-15, col. 6 lines 57-65, col. 7 lines 23-30) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 25, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 3, col. 1 lines 45-52, col. 9 lines 12-22) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 26, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 14) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 27, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figure 3) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 28, Krupka et al. (Abstract, col. 7 lines 19-22) disclose the feature of this claim.

9. Claims 30-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Krupka et al. (EP 575100).

As per claim 30, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 3, 14, page 2 lines 30, 31, page 5, lines 7-17, 54-59, page 6, lines 1-5) disclose "transmitting a connectivity interrogation signal to a first socket contact proximate a first data port". Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 3, 14, 17, page 2 lines 30-33, page 4 lines 16-22, page 5 lines 2-6, pages 32-36, 38, 40, 41, 53, 55) disclose "scanning said plurality of input latches for an

indication of receipt of said connectivity interrogation signal at a second socket contact proximate a second data port”.

As per claim 31, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 14, page 3 lines 4-11, page 4 lines 38-40, 54, 55) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 32, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 14, page 3 lines 4-11, page 4 lines 38-40, 54, 55) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 33, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 14, page 3 lines 4-11, page 4 lines 38-40, 54, 55) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 34, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figure 2, page 4 lines 16-20) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 35, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 3, 14, page 2 lines 30, 31, page 5, lines 7-17, 54-59, page 6, lines 1-5) disclose “transmitting a first connectivity interrogation signal from a first output driver to a first socket contact”. Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 3, 14, 17, page 2 lines 30-33, page 4 lines 16-22, page 5 lines 2-6, pages 32-36, 38, 40, 41, 53, 55) disclose “determining which input latch among the plurality of input latches receives said first connectivity interrogation signal”.

As per claim 36, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 3, 14, page 2 lines 30, 31, page 5, lines 7-17, 54-59, page 6, lines 1-5) disclose the feature of this claim.

As per claim 37, Krupka et al. (Abstract, figures 2, 3, 14, page 2 lines 30, 31, page 5, lines 7-17, 54-59, page 6, lines 1-5) disclose the feature of this claim.

10. Claims 38-42 are allowed subject to the appropriate correction of the 37 C.F.R. 1.75(a) objections noted in paragraph 6 above.

Claim 29 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

11. The following references are cited as being art of general interest: Bennett et al. (4,500,988) which disclose a driver/receiver circuit, Stanescu (6,784,802) which disclose real time monitoring of a cable patch panel and Onsen (6,473,811) which discloses displaying a connection status of a device.


12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hal D Wachsman whose telephone number is 571-272-2225. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 7:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc Hoff can be reached on 571-272-2216. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Hal D Wachsman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2857

HW
September 1, 2004